



Employee News

August 2003

News and Information for Families of individuals at Muscatatuck SDC and Madison State Hospital during the transition to community-based services.

2003 UPDATE ON STATUS OF FORMER CENTRAL STATE CLIENTS

June 30, 2003 marked the ninth anniversary of the closing of Central State Hospital in Indianapolis. As part of the hospital-closing transition fund, the Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction funded an independent evaluation of the hospital closing. The Indiana Consortium for Mental Health Services Research (ICMHSR), a multidisciplinary center of academic researchers and public officials/providers throughout Indiana, are conducting a comprehensive evaluation of the closure and its long-term outcomes for those who were affected by the closure. Dr. Eric R. Wright, Associate Professor of Sociology at IUPUI, serves as Project Director for the evaluation project.

Recently, Dr Wright gave an update on findings from the research and tracking projects for the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration. A number of results are now available from two interrelated components of the evaluation which focused on the outcomes of the closure for the clients. These two components are: 1) the tracking project, which collects information on the former clients' location, treatment provision, legal contacts, and level of functioning and has followed all discharged clients since the closing in June 1994, and 2) a more comprehensive study with a sub-sample of clients who participated in in-depth interviews for

FSSA Secretary Hamilton Responds To Your Questions

Q How will DMHA meet the FSSA key priority of expanding home and community-based services for an additional 800 children?

A DMHA will partner with the Division of Family and Children (DFC) to achieve this important priority. The two divisions will focus on:

- Early mental health screening and intervention for children when they enter the DFC system,
- Treatment of children with serious emotional disturbances using a System of Care approach that enhances the collaboration between service providers, and
- Pursuit of a Medicaid waiver for children with serious emotional disturbances who are at risk of institutionalization.

Q How will DMHA meet the FSSA key priority of expanding home and community-based services for an additional 480 adults with mental illness or an addiction?

A DMHA will achieve this priority by working to:

- Expand mental health/addiction services that drive recovery outcomes,
- Expand Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) by pursuing a new ACT rule which ensures that critical services can be paid for by Medicaid,

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- Implement new mental health/addiction criminal justice diversion programs that focus on effective treatment, and
- Provide a new crisis counseling service for victims of natural or man-made disasters.

Q How will DMHA meet the FSSA key priority of building self-sufficiency by increasing the number of successful supported employment closures?

A Employment is a top priority for DMHA because it reduces dependence on the public mental health system and is therapeutic for the consumer. We will take the following action steps to achieve this priority:

- Implement metrics to track the number of successful supported employment closures and the supported employment cycle times,
- Partner with the Vocational Rehabilitation team and providers to streamline the supported employment process,
- Sponsor the Supported Employment technical assistance center to reinforce best practices, and
- Pilot performance-based contracts to reward providers for achieving employment outcomes.

Next month you will hear from newly appointed FSSA Secretary Pat Rios.

Secretary Rios will officially begin work at FSSA on Monday, October 1, 2003.

MSDC Training Dollars Update


Five hundred and forty-six employees have taken education and/or training courses using a total of \$800,811.12. This is an average of \$1,466.68 per person.



Message from Nikki Morrell

Construction has begun for the Southeast Regional Center on the grounds of Madison State Hospital. Initial construction bids we received were above projections, so these companies were notified that revised lower bids were needed. This process postponed construction for a brief period, but the project is now up and running. Photographs of the project will be available as the work progresses. It is exciting to see work begin; it will be even more exciting when it is completed!

Regional service delivery is in both an organizational stage and a service delivery stage. Several regional providers have submitted proposals for projects to benefit our region.

FSSA worked hard and captured \$100,000 in federal grant money for initiating a "real systems" change in how services are provided within the community. I will look forward to providing you with more information in future newsletters. 

John Hamilton, Secretary, Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, has resigned effective Monday, Oct. 1, 2003. John Dickerson, Executive Director, The Arc of Indiana, was quoted in The Indianapolis Star regarding the resignation, "He refused to accept less than the best effort from folks. There are thousands of families that he'll never meet in Indiana that are receiving services and support because he was trying to expand and figure out ways to do things." Hamilton has served as FSSA Secretary since July 1, 2001. Pat Rios, Governor O'Bannon's deputy chief of staff and legislative director, will serve as the agency's secretary during the final 15 months of his administration.

MSDC Parent's Advisory Council

Muscatatuck State Developmental Center Superintendent Jackie Bouyea formed a Parent's Advisory Council after the announcement of the facility's closure. An initial council meeting of seven individuals met in July of 2000 and began the establishment of by-laws. The purpose of the council is to advise the Superintendent on issues regarding the facility, its plant, and its general operation as related to the well-being of the residents. The following four responsibilities were adopted:

1. To establish goals and objectives consistent with the needs of MSDC and its residents;
2. To participate in the review of the MSDC budget;
3. To assist in a facility-wide strategic plan that achieves the following goals:
 - a. Identifying current resources,
 - b. Identifying unmet service needs, and
 - c. Identifying priority recommendations for the Center; and
4. To act as a focal point for participation in facility-wide activities such as:
 - a. Advocating for the needs of the facility on behalf of its residents,
 - b. Advocating for appropriate programs and services,
 - c. Advising facility administrators on the administration of services,
 - d. Reviewing the annual budget, and
 - e. Acting as the liaison with community businesses and leaders for the benefit of residents.

Council meetings are held monthly. A council subgroup developed and completed a beautification project resulting in the planting of flowers, shrubs, and bushes across campus. Council members have been updated on legislative and legal issues

related to the facility's closure. Council members were also involved in an inservice for parents on the latest innovations being used by physical therapists, speech pathologists, and medical personnel.



Pictured left to right are: Harold Wesselman, Mary Louise Wesselman, Bea Nicoson, Mike Thomas, Irene Stainbrook, Irene Younger Qualkinbush, Robin Stearns, Carrie Burge, Jackie Bouyea, and Frances Egner.

(Update on former CSH clients, cont. from page 1)

the first five years following the closing of Central State Hospital.

Findings from both studies suggest that the former clients, as a group, are functioning equal to or better than they did while they were at the hospital. Indeed, the interview study data suggest that there were significant and consistent improvements in both the clients' quality of life and level of functioning during the first three years after leaving the hospital.

Limited space does not allow for the complete article to be printed. However this study may be found in the August 1999 issue of the *Journal of Behavioral Health Services and Research*. Copies of abstracts for individual articles contained in this journal may be viewed at: <http://www.indiana.edu/~icmhsr/publications.htm>. You may also order copies of individual articles via this same Web site.



Keep In Mind

Indiana Protection & Advocacy Services:

317-722-5555 or

1-800-622-4845

Div. of Disability, Aging & Rehab
Services:

800-545-7763

Div. of Mental Health & Addiction:

800-901-1133

MSDC/MSH Info Hot Line:

800-903-9822

Ombudsman: **800-622-4484**

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Future Issues

- ♦ Resources
- ♦ Your Ideas

No person was ever honored
for what he received. Honor has
been the reward for what he
gave.

~ Calvin Coolidge ~

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